

**THE LATIN CORRELATIVE : FORMATION AND USAGE**  
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The Latin Correlative. A correlative is a word or words that have a *mutual* relationship with another word or words

Certain adjectives and adverbs can work in *pairs* or *correlatively*, in order to construct a comparison between the two parts of a complex sentence. The comparison usually involves either quantity or size. And, the second or paired word answers the first word to complete the proposition

CORRELATIVE ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS		
THE FIRST PART	THE SECOND PART	CLINCHING THE ARGUMENT
tam. adverb. so, as	quam. adverb. as	tam...quam. as...as
talis, -e. adjective. of such a sort (quantity)	quails, -e. adjective. of what kind, what sort of	talis...quails. such as, of such a sort as
tantus, -a, -um. adjective. so much (quantity / size)	quantus, -a, -um. adjective. how much, how great	tantus...quantus. as great as, as much as, as large as
tot. indeclinable adjective. so many	quot. indeclinable adjective. how many	tot...quot. how many, as many as
totiens. adverb. so many times (often)	quotiens. adverb. how many times	totiens...quotiens. as many times as, as often as
quo. adverb. by how much	eo. adverb. by that much	quo...eo. the...the (comparative)
tanto. adjective, ablative, masculine. of such size, of such measure, so much, so great	quanto. adjective, ablative, masculine. how much, how many	tanto...quanto. the (comparative) the more, the more
idem, eadem, idem. pronoun. the same	qui, quae, quod. pronoun. that	idem...qui. the same as

Cited correlation constructions. Example :

passer non <u>tam</u> ferox est <u>quam</u> corvus	The sparrow is not as fierce as the raven
passer <u>talis</u> est <u>quails</u> aquila	The sparrow is not of such a sort as the eagle
passer rostrum non <u>tantum</u> habet <u>quantum</u> aquila	The sparrow does not have as big a beak as does the eagle
in hortus non sunt <u>tot</u> corvi <u>quot</u> passerres	In the garden there are not as many ravens as sparrows
in silva corvos non <u>totiens</u> vidimus <u>quotiens</u> aquilas	In the woods we do not see ravens as often as eagles
<u>quo</u> passerres habeo <u>eo</u> corvos	By how many sparrows I have, by that many ravens (I have) [Latin verb implied]
non <u>tanto</u> est corvo <u>quanta</u> aquila	The raven is not as large as the eagle
corvi feroces in hortus, <u>eidem</u> erant <u>qui</u> semper fuerant	The wild ravens in the garden, they were the same as they had always been

**Nota bene :** Correlatives in English are not always translated separately as in Latin, often as a fixed phrase. English translation, the second part, such as *quam*, *quails*, etc regardless of literal meaning is almost always equivalent to *as*. Birds were selected to illustrate the Latin correlative, their place and symbolism within Roman society. Example :

passer, passeris. 3m. **the sparrow**. Catullus and Lesbia, his girlfriend, are associated with the sparrow

passer mortuus est meae puellae	My girl's sparrow is dead
passer, deliciae meae puellae	The sparrow, my girl's pet

Catullus. Carmina 3. 3-4

Catullus. Poem 3. Lines 3-4

**corvus, -i. 2m. the raven.** The raven has attributed prophetic potency and is sacred to Apollo

**aquila, -ae. 1f. the eagle.** The eagle, first under the Republic and then the Empire, is a prominent Roman symbol. The eagle was used by the Roman army as a symbol on the standard carried by the Legion as part of regimental iconography and identity

**Three ways of stating the : *not only...but also...* correlative balance.** The first of three constructions to express the correlative balance, meaning : *not only...but also...*, with the idiom : *cum...tum...*

***cum* rostrum parvum *tum* corpus magnum habet aquila**      The eagle has not only a small beak but also a large body

Another way to say : *not only...but also...*, is : *non modo, solum / tantum...sed etiam...*

**vinum *non tantum* in casam tulerat corvus *sed etiam* biberat**      The raven had not only brought the wine into the house, but he had also drunk it

***non modo* Gallos *sed etiam* Britannos vicit Aquilia**      The Eagle defeated not only the Gauls but also the Britons

**Nota bene**      *modo, solum* and *tantum* in a non-correlative construction means *only* or *just*. Example :

**duos *tantum* corvos fratri meo da**      Give my brother just two ravens

***etiam* in a non-correlative construction means *also* or *even*. Example :**

***etiam* coloni passerem amant**      Even the share-croppers love their sparrows

***ne...quidem* in a non-correlative construction means *not even*. The word that is emphasized is placed between *ne* and *quidem***

***ne* aquilam *quidem* terreat lupus tam parvus**      Such a small wolf did not terrify even the eagle

**Other ways of making an emphatic comment.** *tam, talis* consider the interrogative or exclamatory construction. Example :

**corvi sunt *tam* feroces!**      Ravens are so fierce!

***talis* corvos non timeo**      I am not afraid of such ravens

**in hortus corvos *totiens* vidimus!**      We see ravens in the garden so often!

***quam, quails* may introduce either an exclamation or a question. Example :**

***quam* ferox est corvus!**      How fierce the raven is! [The sentence as an exclamatory construction]

***quam* ferox est corvus?**      How fierce is the raven? [The same sentence as an interrogative construction]

***quot* passerem in hortus vidimus!**      How many sparrows we see in the garden! [Exclamatory construction]

***quot* passerem in hortus vidimus?**      How many sparrows do we see in the garden? [Interrogative construction]

**Nota bene :** Be aware of the distinction between *quam, how* in the sense, *to what an extent* or *degree* from *quomodo, how* in the sense, *by what means*. Example :

***quam* dulcia sunt somnia**      How sweet dreams are!

***quomodo* somnia dulcia videbo**      How will I see sweet dreams?

**Reciprocal ideas.** Latin expresses the exchange of reciprocal ideas : *inter nos, between us; inter vos, between you; and inter se, between themselves*. Example :

**inter nos amamus**      We love each other

**Belgae obsides inter se dant**      The Belgians exchange hostages